

FTA NEWS

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

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FTA Local 7 Smashes AFL Raid In 1546—488 Election Victory



Fifty FTA shop stewards, shown at banquet following Region V conference, backed FTA in the campaign for autonomy and democracy within CIO. Conference (and banquet) heard from FTA Vice-Pres. Robert Lathan, Natl. Administrative Director Donald Henderson, Regional Director Larry Larsen and many stewards and rank and filers. (See story, FTA News, August 1949).



Days of the "Grapes of Wrath" are coming back again for agricultural workers as unemployment mounts. Congress has flatly refused to do anything for these most exploited workers, has again left them out of wage-hour, social security law protection. Picture shows wife of an unemployed agricultural worker making a "home" in a tent by the side of the road. Two million more are faced with similar conditions.

In a smashing four to one vote, FTA turned back an attempted AFL raid in the Alaska salmon industry by a majority of 1,546 to 488. The vote came after months of campaigning by the AFL and the employers against FTA on the ground that it was "red," etc., and could not represent the workers.

The vote was also a rebuke to the U. S. Immigration Service, whose inspectors worked only with the AFL and the employers in a drive to intimidate the rank and file by bringing deportation charges against active unionists.

The election now leaves FTA Local 7 as undisputed bargaining agent for close to 3,000 non-resident workers who ship out from the northwest coast to Alaska each year for the salmon pack.

This was recognized by the employers immediately after FTA's victory, when Harold O'Neill, attorney for the Alaska Salmon Industry, Inc., said: "Unquestionably the industry will continue to bargain with the FTA union."

The attempted raid was carried out by the so-called "Seafarers Union" of the AFL, a company-dominated outfit whose chief function is to furnish scabs for shipowners and other employers.

The payoff on AFL "Seafarers" and employer collusion came when the scab-herders signed a back-door contract that would have cut wages by 50 percent, if allowed to stand.

The FTA victory was won despite the fact that the Taft-Hartley Natl. Labor Relations Board, acting on orders from the salmon bosses, refused to put FTA on the ballot. This has since been remedied, and FTA will appear on the ballot in all future elections.

The Face of Fascism

The face of fascism showed itself in America when organized hoodlum mobs tried—and failed—to prevent Paul Robeson from singing in Peekskill, N. Y.

It showed itself as it did in Germany, with hopped-up thugs stoning men, women and children, screaming "Kill the n****rs, kill the Jews, kill the commies."

It showed itself, as it did in Germany, when N. Y. state police helped the thugs beat and injure 140 peaceful people, just as German police helped Hitler's racists beat, injure, kill men and women.

In face of this stormtrooper mob, organized, led and inspired by state and local authorities, by businessmen and "respectable" citizens, the great Paul Robeson sang, as he said he would. Twenty-five thousand people, most of them workers and union members, came to hear him and protect him and America from lynching.

Physically and morally, Paul Robeson towers above the scum who hate him and his people. The white supremacists were defeated by a heroic leader and by the men and women—and the children—who came to hear him.

Every Negro and every honest white can rejoice that Robeson was heard. But before rejoicing must come action to make another Peekskill, another lynching, another racist outburst impossible in our country.

Demand action from Governor Dewey of New York! Demand that the state rip apart the whitewash of official "investigation," demand full and swift punishment for all implicated—the thugs, police, authorities, "respectable" citizens behind the Peekskill outrage!

Good resolutions aren't enough. Liberal feelings aren't enough. White supremacy, racism, political persecution—which bring fascism—must be crushed before they crush America.

Wage-Hour, T-H Trickery

by Elizabeth Sasuly

The House passed a wage-hour bill setting a 75 cent minimum wage, but removing over a million of the lowest paid workers from the law's protection.

The way was left open for additional hundreds of thousands of tobacco, cannery cotton processing and shed shed workers to be cut out by a provision allowing the employer-dominated Department of Agriculture to define the "area of production exemption."

Only one exemption affecting FTA workers was eliminated from the law—the fish cannery exemption. Packing, etc., of fresh fish is still outside the law.

GOP-Dem Deal

As in the case of Taft-Hartley, a Democratic Administration deal was responsible for what happened. In order to be able to say they "passed a 75c bill," the Administration pushed a 75c amendment to the Lucas (D-Tex.) bill, instead of fighting for its own watered down Lesinski bill. The Lucas bill contains all of the exemptions listed above, plus additional ones legalizing every trick an employer ever thought of to chisel on overtime.

ACTION

Write your senators immediately: Support a \$1.00 minimum wage and do away with all exemptions depriving food, tobacco and cotton processing workers of the law's protection.

Taft-Hartley Repeal

FTA's Washington Office has made a survey to find out

which congressmen have signed Discharge Petition No. 2, introduced by Rep. Marcantonio (ALP NY), to bring 100 percent repeal of Taft-Hartley before the House for a vote. 218 signatures on this petition can produce action on Taft-Hartley.

The names listed below are those of congressmen who informed us (or whose offices informed us) that they have signed Discharge Petition No. 2. Because House rules forbid release of the names of those who have signed petitions, it was necessary to obtain this information by making an individual check of congressmen.

If your congressman's name is not on this list, urge him to sign Discharge Petition No. 2. This is a test of whether he means it when he says he is for Taft-Hartley repeal.

There is time for your congressman to sign the petition and there is time for action on Taft-Hartley before the end of this session if the friends of labor in Congress start fighting and stop falling for phony deals.

Names of Congressmen who informed us they have signed Discharge Petition No. 2 are:

Addonizio (D-N.J.)
Bailey (D-W.Va.)
Baring (A.L.-Nev.)
Blatnik (D-Minn.)
Buchanan (D-Pa.)
Buckley (D-N.Y.)
Burdick (A.L.-N.Dak.)
Burke (D-Ohio)
Burnside (D-W.Va.)
Cavalcante (D-Pa.)
Celler (D-N.Y.)
Chesney (D-Ill.)
Chudoff (D-Pa.)

Davenport (D-Pa.)
Dawson (D-Ill.)
Dollinger (D-N.Y.)
Eberharter (D-Pa.)
Feighan (D-Ohio)
Flood (D-Pa.)
Gordon (D-Ill.)
Granahan (D-Pa.)
Green (D-Pa.)
Havener (D-Calif.)
Hays (D-Ohio)
Heffernan (D-N.Y.)
Hollifield (D-Calif.)
Huber (D-Ohio)
Kelley (D-Pa.)
Keogh (D-N.Y.)
King (D-Calif.)
Klein (D-N.Y.)
Lane (D-Mass.)
Lind (D-Pa.)
Linehan (D-Ill.)
McGrath (D-N.Y.)
Magee (D-Mo.)
Mansfield (D-Mont.)
Mitchell (D-Wash.)
Morgan (D-Pa.)
Multer (D-N.Y.)
O'Brien (D-Mich.)
O'Brien (D-Ill.)
O'Hara (D-Ill.)
O'Konski (D-Wis.)
O'Neill (D-Pa.)
Pfeifer (D-N.Y.)
Polk (D-Ohio)
Powell (D-N.Y.)
Price (D-Ill.)
Rhodes (D-Pa.)
Rodino (D-N.J.)
Rooney (D-N.Y.)
Sadowski (D-Mich.)
Tauriello (D-N.Y.)
Wagner (D-Ohio)
Walsh (D-Ind.)
Welch (D-Calif.)
Withrow (R-Wis.)

NOTE: Some congressmen who were out of town when this check was made may have signed the petition although their names are not on the list. Please inform the Washington Office if your congressman tells you he signed although his name is not on the list.



Ex-Senator Ball, who helped write the Taft-Hartley law, got \$3,475 from General Motors and General Electric for three months work in helping block block T-H repeal in the 81st Congress. When the voters retired Ball last year, he announced he was going to write fiction. How many fiction writers do you know that do it at the rate of \$14,880 a year?

Another 47 ex-Senators and Congressmen are drawing a total of \$147,187 a year in pensions, which averages \$3,131 each. They get it whether they quit voluntarily or are laid off by the voters. These are the same boys who have consistently refused to raise Social Security pensions for workers, which now average (including highest and lowest paid) less than \$25 a month.

And speaking of statistics, here's another set to toy with. According to the U.S. Treasury Dept., American industry spent two and a half billion dollars on advertising—all tax free—in 1946. By a little arithmetic, we find that sum would provide wage raises of 39 cents an hour for better than four million workers. (Try it yourself: divide two and a half billion by \$600, the amount of a 39 cent raise for 2,000 hours, and you get the total 4,166,666).

Despite corporation lobbies, Fair Deal program is inching along," says national CIO. Reminds us of the optimist who was battling a flood. Waves were piling up over him, the the savage current was dragging him away, his arms were flailing weakly in the torrential water when a friend on the

bank shouted how're you doing? Oh I'm inching along, inching along....

Government says no more giveaway shows on the radio. They're a lottery, hence illegal. How about the biggest lottery of all—you give away the best years of your life and all your muscles to the boss and come out with a lottery ticket stub worth \$5.00 a month till you die.

Philadelphia is spending half a million bucks on a new lion house for the zoo, with air conditioning and "retiring rooms" for motherly lady lions. Same city spends nothing for lowest housing. Cats, it seems, count more than citizens.

Last July 18 the U.S. Chamber of Commerce asked labor to drop wage demands. September 10, Truman's steel fact finding board asked CIO Steelworkers drop wage demands. September 12, Philip Murray dropped wage demands. Tut tut... that's a six weeks lag.

Here's the understatement of the year, by the 9th Circuit Court of Los Angeles in a Taft-Hartley injunction case against a union: "The reluctance of workers to cross a picketline is notorious."

Secretary of Commerce Sawyer says, "recession is due to fear." Obviously it's the workers' fault, they're such timid souls they get nervous about feeding their families when they're laid off. Next time we know they know they know right away we've got a recession.

As the kid said when he refused more dessert, that's all the applause for today.

Sneak Congress Attack Hits FTA Shed Workers

A sneak attack against shed workers was scored in Congress on August 25th. The Senate acted on the third deficiency appropriation bill, which was brought to a vote unexpectedly, but failed to remove the so-called agricultural rider. This rider prohibits use of National Labor Relations Board funds in cases involving agricultural labor as defined in the wage-hour law.

Recently the NLRB reversed all court decisions under the wage-hour law and issued decisions in which shed workers

were called agricultural workers. When the rider was first adopted, debate in the Senate made it very clear that shed workers were not to be classed as agricultural labor. The danger in the NLRB interpretation is that it may be used by employers in an attempt to remove shed workers from the protection of the wage-hour law and other federal and state laws.

FTA will continue to fight for removal of this rider when it comes before Congress in other appropriation bills.



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\$205,000, Jobs Won by FTA Despite Teamos

Back pay of \$205,000 and reinstatement for workers fired for union activity were won from northern California canneries through FTA pressure on the Natl. Labor Relations Board this month.

The 415 workers ordered reinstated had been fired at the demand of the AFL Teamsters Union as far back as 1945, when FTA won an election covering 60,000 cannery workers—only to have the election set aside by the employer-dominated NLRB. Some 1,330 were discharged for FTA union activity when the Teamsters signed a backdoor, illegal agreement with the cannery owners. Those not covered by the reinstatement order have either left the industry or returned to their jobs, where they were forced to take out AFL cards.

The NLRB has also ordered the canneries not to "restrain or coerce" workers "in the exercise of their right to self-organization."

The order climaxes a long campaign by FTA to secure back pay and jobs for those wanting them that grew out of the two major FTA drives in the industry in 1945 and 1946. In both drives FTA had to battle united employer-Teamster collusion, aided by the failure of the NLRB to enforce its orders against backdoor contracts and other illegal acts.

After FTA won a majority in the 1945 vote, the employers, represented by California Processors and Growers, Inc., realized that their best bet was to sign with the Teamsters, whose leaders cheerfully negotiate substandard contracts and even wage cuts for the

rank and file. Teamster officials also specialize in dumping seasonal workers at contract time, which saves the employers millions of dollars in wages they would have to pay under FTA contract.

The cannery bosses and the Teamsters put pressure on the NLRB to throw out the 1945 election, which it did by refusing to count any ballots challenged by FTA. The 1946 election was accompanied by a Board order against backdoor deals between Teamsters and cannery bosses, which both ignored completely while the Board did nothing to enforce it.

As a result of this triple play — Teamos-to-canneries-to-NLRB — the workers were again deprived of their right to a union of their own choosing and the Teamsters were certified.

Over 1,300 workers were made the victims of Teamster-employer revenge. FTA at once started action to have them reinstated with back pay. The victory just announced will hearten all the workers in the fight against Teamster dictatorship.

"The returning workers had a taste of real fighting democratic unionism with FTA," Regional Director Jack Montgomery commented. "We feel sure they will not quietly accept or tolerate the bureaucratic, dictatorial methods of the AFL Teamster leaders."

California cannery workers have been fighting for a real union since 1937. Each time so far the AFL top brass has managed to frustrate them. With this new victory won by FTA, militant rank and filers will take new hope.

Local 37 Wins Union Shop

By an almost two to one vote, FTA Local 32, Newcastle, Ind., has won a union shop for its members. Majority was 40 to 27.

The election was held under the Taft-Hartley law requirements of the NLRB, which make a union shop illegal unless voted by a majority of all workers employed in the bargaining unit.

The election was made possible by FTA's recent compliance with the Taft-Hartley affidavits, enabling it to use the NLRB when such use will protect and advance the union.

(Local 37's successful vote is the first union shop ballot to be reported to FTA News since the union has been in compliance with Taft-Hartley. Other reports are welcome.)

FTA WINS 4 TO 1 ELECTION AGAINST AFL UNION RAIDERS

By ROBERT KINNEY

The membership of FTA Local 7, Alaska non-resident cannery workers union, gave their answer to red baiters, the AFL union wreckers and U. S. Immigration Service stoolpigeons in NLRB election results showing 1,546 votes for Local 7 and only 488 for the AFL "Seafarers."

The victory leaves Local 7 undisputed bargaining agent for nearly 3,000 non-resident salmon cannery workers who ship to Alaska each year.

Following announcement of the results, Harold O'Neill, spokesman for the Alaska Salmon Industry, Inc., told the press that: "Unquestionably the industry will continue to bargain with the FTA union."

Heavy Odds

The entire election procedure was rigged against Local 7 from the start. A phony eligibility ruling made it necessary

for a person to get a job for the 1949 season before he was allowed to vote regardless of the number of years the worker had been employed in the industry before. In order to become an employee it was necessary to pass a physical examination conducted by a company doctor.

Although there was an agreement between Local 7 and the industry basing hiring on seniority rights the companies in many cases ignored the agreement altogether and hired directly through the AFL "Seafarers." When FTA complained of contract violations the companies replied: "If you don't like it take us to court."

A vicious campaign of intimidation by threats of deportation was made by the U. S. Immigration Service. This campaign, still going on, was aimed at union members who refused to become stoolpigeons to help frame Local 7 leadership. In the midst of the fight the local union's business agent, Ernesto Mangaoang, was

jailed on a deportation warrant.

AFL Backdoor Work

The real intent behind the red-baiting and raiding showed up when the AFL union signed a backdoor agreement with the boss cutting wages in half for nearly 50% of the workers in the industry. The AFL excuse for the sellout was an alleged need "to keep the industry from being forced out of business in the face of a declining salmon run."

(Actually the 1949 salmon pack in Southeastern Alaska is the biggest in nine years. It now exceeds last year's by 400,000 cases with the season only half over.)

In any event such a statement is hard for workers to digest when they know the bosses' take for the previous year was more than \$60,000,000, and even more difficult when they know that profit on net worth has for the past couple of years been higher than most other industries in the country.

FTA Wins Raise As AFL Raiders Offer 50% Pay Cuts to Bosses

For the first time in history FTA cannery workers and CIO fishermen in the southeastern District of Alaska forced the Alaska Salmon Industry, Inc., into joint negotiations.

The two unions went into negotiations faced with the fact that the industry had already signed 26 different agreements with various unions which, with one exception, either included wage cuts or last year's prices. The only other group to receive an increase this year were the fishermen and cannery workers in the Cook Inlet and Cordova areas. The gains in that area were made only after a 15-day strike which threatened the operators with a total loss of the season.

It was only after the joint action committee was set up that the industry retreated

from its attempt to cut wages. Anticipating a repetition of the Cook Inlet fight the unions had their strike machinery set up and ready to roll as the August 15 deadline approached.

Solidarity Pays Off

Individual operators became worried and began putting pressure on the association when it was learned that the Alaska Fishermen's Union had told its members to respect picket lines and support the strike of the fishermen and cannery groups. The packers were then faced with granting the union demands or sacrificing the best season since 1941.

Gains Won

The cannery workers won an increase of seven cents for hourly workers by eliminating the third classification in the agreement and reclassifying all workers to the next highest classification. This establishes a new minimum wage of \$1.47 per hour.

In spite of the short 15-day season the cannery workers increased their seasonal guarantee by \$16.00 over last year. The season this year is eight days shorter than last year. The new increase brings the seasonal guarantee up to \$337.50.

Under the new agreement if the workers work past the hour and less than a full half hour the employer must pay for a half hour's work. If the time exceeds a half hour and is less than a full hour the worker gets pay for a full hour.

The past procedure was for the operator to keep a record of the odd minutes and divide them by 60 at the close of the season's work to determine the amount of time due the worker.

The new termination clause allows the union to open the agreement for negotiations on specific issues rather than to have to terminate the entire agreement and negotiate a new one each year which has been the past practice.

The agreement is retroactive to the commencement of employment and will give back

pay to many workers that have been employed by operators doing speculative canning on troll caught and gill net fish since May of this year.

SIU-AFL Sellout

While the FTA was in negotiations the industry sneaked around signing back-door agreements with the AFL "Seafarers," which in one case cut last year's wages in half by reducing the seasonal guarantee from two months to one month. The industry used these phony agreements as well as the pending NLRB election raid by the SIU on the FTA jurisdiction in an effort to weaken the union's bargaining position.

Worth Remembering

Heywood Broun, founder of the Newspaper Guild, had a word for redbaiting at the first (1937) national conference of CIO. Said Heywood in his maiden speech:

"There is one word I haven't heard on the floor, and I have seen it in a lot of headlines. I blush to admit I used it myself last night. After a lot of hard, grinding work in a committee I went into a poker game for just half an hour to rest up and pep myself up for the next convention session. In the first pot I held three kings. There was some betting between me and another newspaperman, but when I reached for the pot he laid down three aces. Now what did I say? What could I say?"

"I've read the headlines and observed the deliberations of the unAmerican committee so as he grabbed the pot I said: 'YOU DIRTY RED!'"

Delegates from 29 AFL, CIO and railroad locals plan to organize a South Side Labor Council in Chicago to fight for "full rights for the Negro citizens of Chicago on the job and in the community."



The face of fascism in America showed itself at Peekskill, N. Y., when organized hoodlums attacked and seriously injured 140 people attending the Paul Robeson concert there. German Nazi pattern was repeated when police, as shown above, helped thugs attack citizens, Negro and white, men, women and children.

(See editorial, Page 1)

WAGE FREEZE PLAN BLOW TO ALL WORKERS

AN EDITORIAL

President Truman's "Steel Board of Inquiry" has issued its "findings of fact" on the issues between the CIO United Steelworkers Union and the steel industry.

The report calls for no wage increases and proposes that negotiations take place on the issues of pensions and insurance. The Steelworkers union has accepted the findings and has withdrawn its request for an increase. The union has called on the steel industry to accept the findings and to negotiate for pensions and insurance on that basis.

The pension and insurance "package" proposed by the Board totals 10 cents an hour—four cents for insurance, six for pensions. It also recommended that negotiations on pensions be not completed until March 1, 1950, during which a joint union-industry study will be made.

It is, of course, the business of the Steelworkers union to come to its own conclusions on the report, in so far as it concerns steelworkers.

HITS ALL WORKERS

However, the Board has gone far beyond both the task it was set up to do and the scope of the situation it was set up to study and make recommendations upon.

The Board has deliberately set out to make pronouncements and judgments that affect the wages and living standards of all workers, including workers in the food,

tobacco and fiber industries covered by FTA.

It has done so by its unqualified insistence upon a wage freeze. The effect of this position by President Truman's Board of Inquiry has already been widely felt in other industries where workers are demanding wage increases. The very fact that the newspapers, which reflect the employers' point of view on all issues, have hailed the report is an indication that it will be used against unions now or in the future in negotiations for improved wages.

In making its recommendations for a wage freeze, the Board ignored all of the factors making a substantial and general wage increase necessary for the good of the workers and the good of the nation.

The Board ignored the fact that real wages have fallen 14 percent since the end of the war; that profits have more than tripled; that the workers' share of the national income has fallen from 61.9 percent in 1939 to 58.9 percent in 1948, and is still falling.

LIVING COSTS IGNORED

The Board ignored the fact that living costs, far from declining, are staying up or are increasing, as shown by wholesale price levels, particularly of food. It also ignored the fact that workers' savings have fallen off to the point where 90 percent of the population holds only 15 percent of savings, while 10 percent at the top hold 85 percent.

The President's Board finally ig-

nored the fact that these factors have caused a sharp decline in the people's purchasing power, which in turn has brought mass layoffs to the point of 5,000,000 workers now unemployed, with many more working on short time.

The Board, of course, was instructed to limit its studies to steel. Since its wage freeze recommendations have been so widely accepted by employers in all industries, it is well to point out some considerations affecting food and tobacco workers, many thousands of whom are now or about to become involved in wage negotiations.

Workers in these industries, despite their success in raising wages through FTA, are still behind the general average of manufacturing wages.

Profits of leading food and tobacco companies increased by 89.9 percent in 1948 compared to 1945. In 1948, the return on net worth was 15.7 cents per dollar of invested capital.

The total return for all corporations was 10.3 cents per dollar of invested capital, showing the food and tobacco industry to be far ahead of the general average.

The unbalance of wages and profits is increasing. In 1939 employers got a net profit of \$1.00 for every \$7.50 paid out in wages. In 1948 it took only \$5.87 paid out in wages to bring \$1.00 net profit.

In 1929, just before the Hoover crash, industry paid out only \$5.37 per \$1.00 of net profit.

Thus we see the conditions for a repetition of 1929 and the hungry 30's being set up again. Swollen profits, declining real wages, loss of purchasing power, mass unemployment—then, unless action is taken now, the crash.

The action needed to remedy this is not a wage freeze, but a substantial wage increase to workers in all industries. This will help restore lost buying power, raise living standards, check unemployment.

Certainly pensions and insurance, paid for by the employers, are desirable and necessary. Insecurity and dependent old age are terrible burdens to be borne by workers.

But pensions and insurance are no substitute for wage increases. They do not provide the wherewithal needed now to prevent unemployment and want.

To say, as the President's Steel Board does, that wages should not be increased and that negotiations should revolve only around insurance and pensions is to stab the workers and the nation in the back.

FTA unions, knowing that their members need and deserve substantial wage increases, will continue to press for them until they are received.

They will not be lulled by negotiations on insurance and pensions into accepting a wage freeze.

FTA Tells CIO the Facts of Life About Raiding

The facts of life about raids on unions were told to CIO leaders this week in a letter from FTA's top officers to CIO officialdom in Washington.

The letter accompanied FTA's current per capita payments to CIO and explained in detail just where FTA unions were being raided by other CIO affiliates.

Signed by Acting President John Tisa, Secretary-Treasurer Armando Valdes, Vice-President Robert Lathan and Armando Ramirez, and Administrative Director Donald Henderson, the letter said:

"During the past eight months this international union has been raided and is being raided in no less than

20 locals throughout the country, having a dues paying membership of 23,600. Plants and packing sheds in these locals total roughly 215.

"Six different international unions affiliated to the CIO are conducting nearly all of these raids."

Raids by the AFL are something FTA "has learned from past experience to expect," the letter said, pointing out that only three AFL unions are trying to disrupt FTA contracts at this time.

In each case, the letter added, FTA officers have protested union-splitting activity by CIO unions, and in most cases have protested directly to national CIO officials.

"These protests have neither stopped the raids, nor, as the letter points out, 'as far as this office knows have any actions been taken in an attempt to stop these raids by any CIO international unions.'"

The letter goes on to name the CIO unions guilty of trying to bust up FTA collective bargaining, a list that includes Packinghouse Workers, Brewery Workers, Wood Workers, Oil Workers, Transport Service Employees and United Auto workers.

(None of these CIO unions, it should be noted, has any claim to jurisdiction over food,

tobacco or fiber processing workers. This jurisdiction was clearly marked out for FTA when the union joined the CIO in 1937.)

"While we have been and are being outstandingly successful in beating back these raids, they take energy, money and increase the difficulties for us to carry out our program to organize the unorganized," the FTA letter says.

"In closing we again urge that you and the other officers of CIO take steps to put an end to this disgraceful raiding of FTA by other CIO unions.

"We in FTA are doing our

best to carry out a progressive program to serve the economic and political interests of our membership as adopted in our conventions and in our local membership meetings.

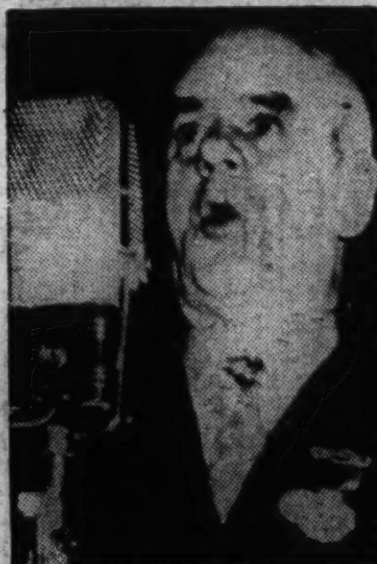
"No part of our program includes raiding. We sincerely hope that you will do your best to see that other CIO unions return to the job of organizing the unorganized, serving the economic and other needs of the membership, and that you will cease the wasting of workers' money on raiding."

The letter was addressed to CIO Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey with copies to CIO President Philip Murray and Vice-President Haywood.

Uphold Rights in CIO

A rally of more than 1,500 New York CIO shop stewards, local executive board members and officers pledged "to fight to remain within the CIO and to exert all our influence to return the CIO to its founding principles of democracy and autonomy." Asst. Regional Director Severino Martinez attended for FTA.

"The recent edict of the majority of the CIO executive board that would deprive international unions of representation and jurisdiction unless they sacrificed their autonomous rights, can only have the effect of further inflaming division and strife within the labor movement and thereby playing into the hands of the employers," said a resolution adopted by the delegates.



Agrees to no wage increases... Philip Murray has accepted wage freeze from Steel Board. (See editorial above).

THAT Was Yesterday

"We never determined the course of action of our affiliates... they were sovereign, autonomous unions, and in matters of great moment we got together and we considered and advised with each other, but in the end we left the ultimate decision to each of the international unions for important policy decisions.

"There is a reason for that.

"I hope the day never comes in the history of the CIO when it shall take upon itself the power to dictate or to rule or to provide by policy methods of dictation and ruling that run counter to the very fundamental principles of true democracy."

That was Philip Murray, president of CIO, speaking at the convention of the United Auto Workers, CIO, in 1947.

Issue of Union Rights Before CIO Convention

No matter how strong an attempt is made to conceal it, the issue of union rights within CIO is bound to come before the national CIO convention in Cleveland next October 31.

The issue boils down to this question: do the members of an international union have the right to determine the policies of their own organization, or must they be determined by the parent body, regardless of the wishes of the rank and file of the affiliated union?

The majority leadership now in control of the national CIO say that their will must rule in all policies and programs adopted by them. All decisions and policies of this group must be binding upon all CIO unions and members, even if they conflict with policies adopted by the individual international unions.

FTA's Position

The position of FTA on this question differs sharply. FTA holds now, and has always held, that the right of union members to formulate their own opinions and policies cannot be infringed.

This is a historic right of members of the labor movement. In brief, it is what is meant by the word "autonomy"—a word that certain sections of the national CIO now sneer at.

The issue of autonomy or union rights is not new in the U.S. labor movement. In fact, the CIO was born in a fight for union autonomy. The issue then was the right of certain international unions within the AFL to organize mass production workers into industrial unions.

The craft union officials of the AFL refused to concede that right, and in 1936 they expelled eight AFL internationals that had dared to assert it in the interest of organizing the unorganized.

Rights Uppermost

By 1938, when 41 CIO unions met to write a formal constitution for the new labor movement in America, the issue of union rights was uppermost in the delegates' minds.

President Donald Henderson of UCAFAWA (renamed FTA in 1944), spoke for all the delegates when he asked a question about

one section of the draft constitution. The section dealt with the matter of disciplining members of the national CIO Executive Board who might be guilty of "malfeasance or maladministration." Henderson asked:

"For purposes of clarification of the record, I would like the chairman of the (constitutional) committee to explain whether this refers to the activities of the officers as members of the Board, or whether it refers also to their activities within their own organizations?"

"In other words, does this section limit itself to passing judgment and acting on the basis of their activities in relation to the Executive Board, or does it refer to their activities also within their own organizations?"

The answer of the chairman of the committee (Thomas L. Kennedy, Mine Workers), was clear:

"In answer to the query it applies only to such officials as may be in the Congress of Industrial Organizations and in their relationship to that organization. It would not apply in their particular international or other unions."

This section was then adopted by unanimous vote.

Change in '48

The CIO continued to operate on that basis until the 1948 convention. Affairs of international unions were not subject to CIO veto. Expression of opinion and policy was free. Every union and every member had the right to formulate individual decisions and to carry them out.

Then, at Portland, Ore.,

unions affiliated to CIO were bluntly told: "Conform or get out." Walter Reuther of the UAW put it crudely when he said to the sponsors of the minority report (a group that included Henderson of FTA) "make up your minds either to get clear in the CIO or clear out."

At the May, 1949 Board meeting, the majority leadership of national CIO passed a resolution calling on CIO leaders whose unions differ with the national CIO on policy to resign. The resolution also called on af-

bership. It cannot be taken away or given away.

The May Board meeting has been followed by even more extreme statements from national CIO officials.

Open threats to expel a number of CIO unions have been made. One union, Farm Equipment, has been ordered to dissolve and turn over its contracts and its members—without consulting them—to the UAW. CIO Secretary James B. Carey and national Vice-President Allan S. Haywood have publicly promised to "get" FTA and other unions at the October convention.

Meanwhile, raiding and disruption (see page 4) by CIO unions have doubled and redoubled. FTA contracts and wage gains are under vicious attack from no less than six different CIO international unions—none of which has jurisdiction over food or tobacco processing.

As the result of this raiding, all of which is conducted under the pretense that FTA "does not follow CIO policy," nearly 25,000 FTA members have to devote all their funds and time to self-defense. They have to fight a two front war, against the bosses on the one hand and against the bosses' helpers from the CIO on the other hand.

Porkchop Issue

The question of autonomy therefore is not merely an abstract one. It is a matter of workers' bread and butter. Dictatorial actions from on top, raiding and disruption from within, public threats of expulsion are all grist to the bosses' mill.

The members of FTA do

have disagreements with some of the policies and actions of national CIO. They feel, for example, that CIO leaders should not have accepted the sellout on Taft-Hartley repeal in the 81st Congress. They feel that CIO should not have agreed to dumping thousands of food and tobacco workers from the Wage-Hour law. They do not agree that the Marshall Plan is the solution of all the world's troubles.

They emphatically disagree with raiding and disruption of one CIO union by another. This has now become official CIO policy, and the members of FTA and the rank and file everywhere are in sharp disagreement with it.

But the main point is not which particular policy either side agrees or disagrees on.

Main Point

The main point is the right of affiliated unions to have policies of their own, if their members so choose. The main point is the democratic right of a union membership to formulate and carry out its own policies and decisions.

The Intl. Executive Board of FTA put it this way at its meeting last June:

"The main issue at stake in CIO today is not however WHAT opinion our membership and our international may want to adopt.

"The issue at stake is whether our membership and our international union have a democratic and autonomous right to HAVE an opinion and a program based on its own locals and international constitution."

This right, like the right to choose its own leaders, cannot and will not be given away by FTA or any other democratically run labor union.

It is the heart of the autonomy issue. Whatever forms the debate takes at the 1949 CIO convention, whatever redbaiting charges are tossed around, no self-respecting union is going to surrender on this issue.

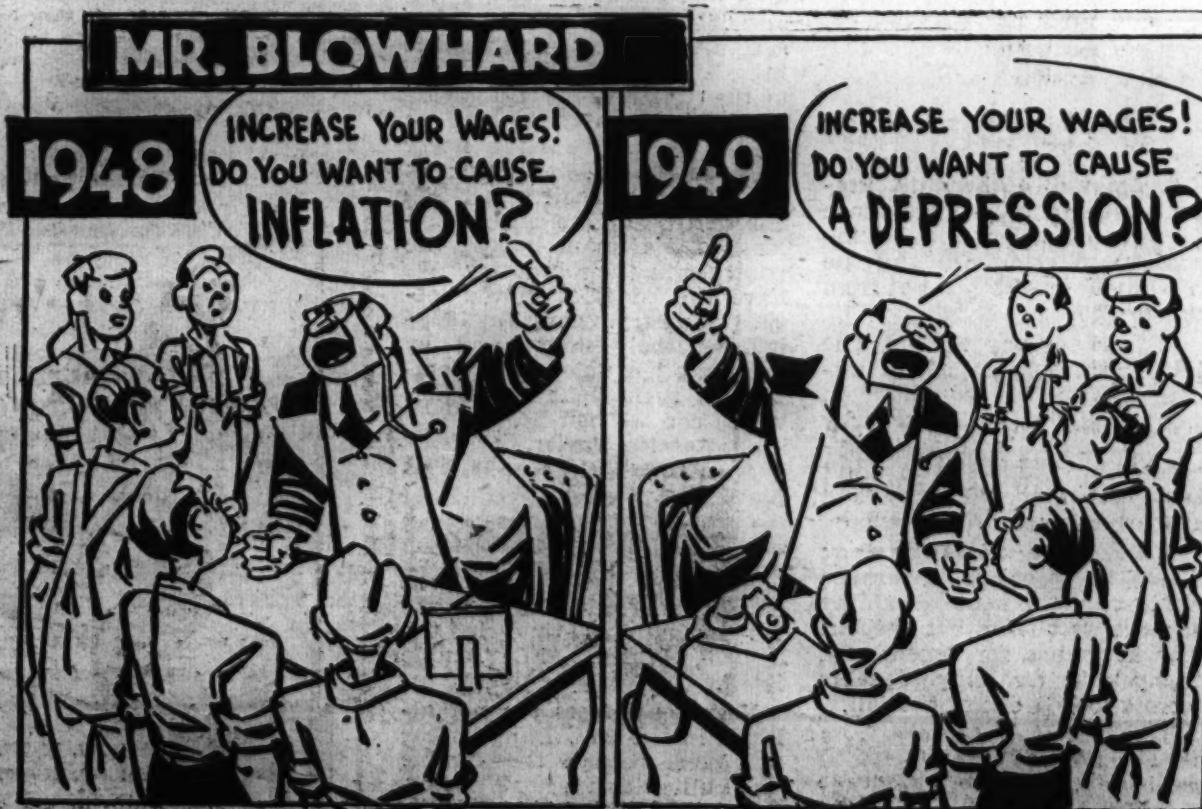
The CIO was founded 15 years ago because the workers needed unions free from dictatorship on top. The members of FTA will fight to the end to see that this freedom and democracy are retained.



affiliated unions to remove such officers from the CIO Board.

Members Run FTA

Both these statements violated not only the autonomy of CIO affiliated unions but also the constitution of CIO itself. No parent body has the right to dictate to an affiliate whom it shall elect or shall not elect. In FTA, as in other unions, their power belongs solely to the mem-



U.S. NEWS SERVICE

574-5111



I suggest we lay off all departments except the personnel department...

News from Nowhere

How Unions Make Out After They're Raided

Reports drifting back from workers whose unions, FTA or otherwise, have been raided, show that conditions slide rapidly downhill once the raiding officials take over.

In Oakland, Calif., Local 50 of the FTA was successfully raided by the AFL Teamsters, who won an election by a small handful of votes. Already the jobs of Negro and Mexican workers are being threatened by the Teamsters master contract, which abandons seniority enforced by the previous FTA contract.

In New York City, the progressive United Electrical Workers was successfully raided by the CIO Auto Workers in a foundry plant. The workers were immediately pulled out on strike, which has been

going on for weeks. Picketlines are not permitted by the union, nor are mass demonstrations. As a result, more than 150 scabs are working inside—put there by union inaction.

Unions whose officers make a career of raiding fare badly themselves. The CIO Shipbuilding Union, whose leaders began the current wave of inter-CIO disruption, has lost its two largest locals (Camden, N.J., and Chester, Pa.) to the AFL, and 40,000 railroad workers in the CIO Shipbuilders are now ordered into an election with the AFL.

Raiding, like crime, can be made to pay—but only to a certain few and that not for long. Only the employer profits in the end.

Small Gains in New Social Security Bill

After six months of stalling, a bill making some small improvements in the Social Security Law (HR 6000) has been reported by the House Ways and Means Committee. This is what the bill does:

1. Coverage. FTA's 10 year campaign to restore social security old age benefits to shed workers met with partial success. The bill provides coverage for shed workers but contains a number of gimmicks which may allow employers to escape from its provisions.

Other groups to whom coverage was extended but with many qualifications and restrictions are: self employed, workers employed by state and local governments and non-profit institutions and domestic workers.

In spite of pledges made by both Republicans and Democrats in their platforms, the Committee failed to extend social security to three million

agricultural workers and six million farmers.

2. Amount of benefits. Present average monthly old age benefits of \$25 would be increased to about \$35 and the minimum would go up from \$10 to \$25.

3. Workers pay for it: The bill continues the present unfair system of "equality" in financing the social security system—that is equal payments by workers who don't have the money to pay and employers who do.

4. Disability Insurance: HR 6000 provides insurance against permanent disability for the first time, but without any allowance for dependents. Temporary disability benefits were knocked out of the bill.

This bill is a far cry from the 'cradle to grave' 'social security' proposed in the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill in the 79th Congress.

FTA Blasts Wage-Hour Law Cuts

The present proposals to amend the federal wage-hour act "betray the principles on which this law was founded," acting Pres. John Tisa charged in a wire to congressmen.

Under the two bills now up for consideration before Congress, Tisa said, workers in low-wage industries are excluded from coverage.

"Close to 350,000 food, tobacco and cotton processing workers will remain entirely outside the wage-hour law if either the Lucas bill or the administration measure is adopted," Tisa pointed out, adding that "almost a million workers in the same industries would still be denied standard time-and-a-half pay after 40 hours work."

Tisa urged Congress to vote for a \$1 minimum wage, "removal of all exemptions and extension of coverage to agricultural workers."

FTA Mailbag

What FTA Has Done for Lettuce Workers

(The following letter from Loretta Taylor, old-timer in the California lettucesheads, was printed in the "Salinas Californian.")

To the Editor:

I have worked in the lettuce industry for 17 years, even before we had a union, and I feel that I am qualified to state what the union has done for the lettuce workers. The majority of the workers live in the Allisal, and in the last 13 years I have seen the standard of living of the workers raised to where they own homes they are proud of, the little children are cared for while their mothers work, and even the city of Salinas would be glad to welcome us into the corporate limits of this city, and 13 years ago they wanted nothing to do with us. I remember the conditions that existed before we had a union, and I am happy to see what a good place the sheds have become under organization.

Do you think we should maintain our union or go back to the old days?

This past week was the first time I have ever heard a union official tell workers not to join or pay dues to the union... in an AFL leaflet. This is an anti-labor leaflet which we feel sure does not express the feelings, beliefs and understanding of the rank and file AFL members, who have supported us in the past. We have never told the AFL truck drivers not to pay dues to their union. We think all workers should belong to the union having the contract in their industry. We have the contract in the lettuce industry. Only by supporting their union and by helping other unions and members in their fight for higher wages can we benefit.

Loretta Taylor,
Member of Local 78, FTA

Jim Crow Again

AFL top brass has been caught jimcrowing Negro workers again, this time in the Seattle, Wash., AFL Temple itself.

Negro customers are not allowed in the AFL Temple's bar and grill, though the Temple was built with worker's money, including that of Negro workers.

LOCALS SUPPORT LABOR PEACE PARLEY CALLED FOR CHICAGO

Nationwide support for the grassroots labor conference on world peace called for Chicago, Oct. 1 and 2, is coming in from local unions all over the country.

Writing to FTA locals, Acting President John Tisa described the meeting as "truly a grassroots movement which sprang up in Cleveland and has swept the country."

"We hope that FTA will have between 250 and 500 delegates, especially from locals in the midwest where the cost of participating is not so high. We

urge every local to do its utmost to participate to the fullest," he added.

The meeting was initiated in Cleveland, where Bernard McGroarty, a rank and filer from the AFL Stereotypers led off a letter to President Truman calling for an end to the cold war and to the cooking of a hot war.

The movement has spread widely among local leaders and other rank and filers in AFL, CIO, Brotherhood and independent unions throughout the U. S. A.

FTA Protests Stormtrooper Police Riots in Peekskill

(See page one)

FTA protests to New York Governor Dewey against the Peekskill riots were sent this week by FTA national officers, locals and individuals throughout the union.

The national officers wired Dewey condemning the "criminal laxity of the state and local authorities in the mob violence at Peekskill, N. Y., where hundreds were injured by police and fascists gangs at a Paul Robeson concert."

Letters were also sent to President Truman and Atter-

ney General McGrath, calling on Federal authorities to take action. Need for this was shown when Dewey announced that he would investigate not the mobs who rioted, but the men and women—and children—who were stoned and beaten.

Just as Hitler did in Germany, Dewey covered up for the stormtroopers by calling Robeson and the 25,000 who came to hear him "reds." The local district attorney, Fanelli, who helped instigate the rioting, was appointed to do the "investigating."

Local 75 Acts on Job Crisis

The labor movement muffed the ball in the last depression and must not do it again this time, Local 75 warns in a letter to other unions in Houston, Tex.

The letter calls for a citywide union conference on the job situation, "to do something NOW about rising unemployment... before our glorious labor movement becomes crippled by it."

"Today, all of us live surrounded by a horrible fear—fear of another great depression, another 1929. The Big Boys—the trusts, monopolies and huge banks—insist as they did in 1929 that all is well. Indeed all is well with them," the call says.

"Yet today five million people are out of work. This is no 'recession,' no 'levelling off.'"

This is a depression!

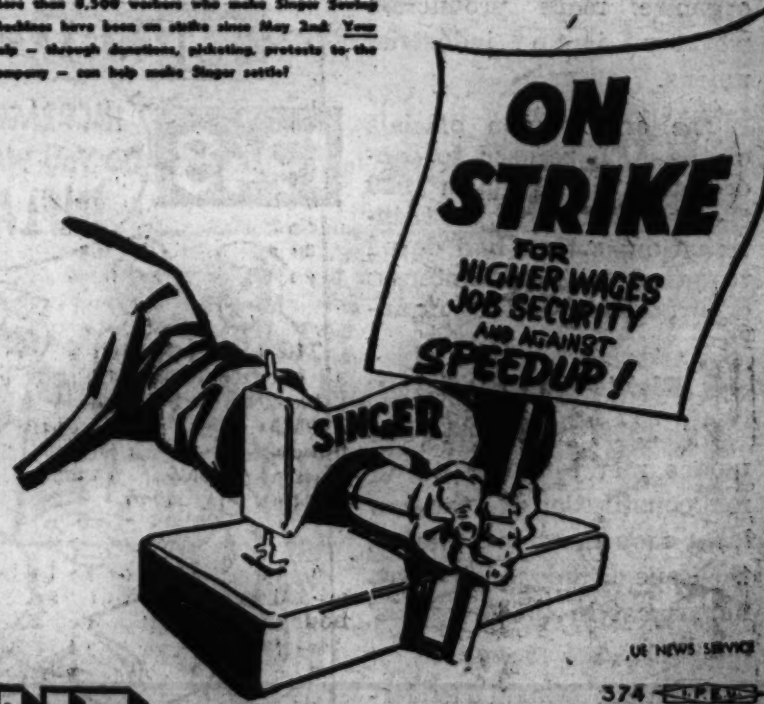
"Houston local unions have it within their power to meet and plan to help our brothers who are now out of work and to put up a real fight against layoffs."

"Demand that delegates to represent you at a citywide conference of Houston unions in the near future," the call asks, adding that the first job will be to organize the conference.

Pres. Harry Bridges of the Intl. Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union (CIO), faces a contempt of court charge "or other appropriate action" for defying an anti-picketing injunction. Circuit Judge Edward A. Towse ordered the Hawaiian attorney general to prepare papers against the ILWU leader.

THE SINGER WORKERS ASK YOUR HELP!

More than 9,500 workers who make Singer Sewing Machines have been on strike since May 2nd. Your help—through donations, picketing, protests to the company—can help make Singer settle!



Local 227, UE-CIO, 1071 Pembroke St., Bridgeport, Connecticut
Local 441, UE-CIO, 210 Trumbull Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America

Home, Sweet . . .

FTA Survey Shows Housing Horror in Winston-Salem

Of 294 Negro workers' homes in Winston-Salem, N. C., only 13 have hot running water, 34 still have no electricity and 151—more than half of those surveyed—have outdoor toilets, Robert Lathan, co-administrator of Local 22 FTA, declared today in releasing the results of a study made by the members of the union this summer.

"People talk of slums and slum clearance, but very few who don't live in these areas understand what poor housing means in terms of inconvenience and actual suffering," the union statement said.

"The results of our survey show that a broad public housing, slum clearance program

is needed immediately, large enough to provide decent homes for thousands of workers' families. This is true for hundreds of white workers too, although in this matter as in others the Negro people suffer the most."

"We commend the action that has been started by the mayor, and we urge that steps be taken to speed-up and enlarge the program. We also urge that the city adopt a rigid rent control program."

Householders in 294 Negro homes were surveyed. They revealed the following facts:

- While there was electricity in most of the homes, 34 reported that they used lamps. 234 reported they heated with coal.

- There were bath tubs in only 48 of the homes. 35 were without any kind of running water and 281 were without hot running water. In 151 of the homes there were outdoor toilets, in 143 indoor toilets. 133 families reported the condition of the toilet as bad or poor.

- 228 of the householders described the general condition of their homes as bad, 242 reported that no repairs had been made in the past three years, or more.

- 93 reported leaking roofs, 84 reported that their houses badly needed painting both inside and out, and 77 reported that general repairs were needed.

Local 22 said that at the present time its members were making a survey of rent increases made during the past month and that they would shortly release the results.

FTA Stops Pay Cut, Wins Improved Pact

Vigorous action by women members of FTA Local 82 ended a threatened cut in earnings in the Pacific Grape Products Co. in Modesto, Cal., local business agent Lorena Ballard reports.

The threatened cut came in a company attempt to end piece rates of 60 cents per 1,000 for pitting peaches. The company wanted to substitute a flat hourly rate of \$1.08. Sixty women workers on the pitting machines had been averaging \$1.60 on piece rates.

It took less than a week's action to get the piece rate restored. Production during that period went down from around 2,700 an hour to 1,400 and less. Even the densest boss can see the result of that, and now the piece rate is back.

The local also won a renewal of its previous contract, with rates ranging from \$1.05 to \$1.65 an hour. Three additional holidays were included. The plant employs about 1,500 workers in season.

A nation-wide drive to help organized labor win the six-hour day at eight-hour pay has been launched by the Six Hour League. The league will issue books, pamphlets, films and other educational media, expanding on the theme that the six-hour day is the best practical approach to the problem of unemployment.



THE WAGE FREEZE

By JOSEPH CALIFF

Research & Education Director

President Truman has just issued the report of the Fact Finding Board he appointed last July to look into the dispute between the steel industry and the CIO Steelworkers Union.

The recommendations of the fact finders call for freezing wages by denying the union's demand for a raise, but would require the companies to provide insurance and pensions costing 10c per hour for each of their workers.

Because this report will have a lot of influence on fourth-round wage negotiations in other industries, it needs to be studied carefully.

Why was the union's demand for a wage increase turned down?

In ruling on the wage question, the Fact Finding Board arbitrarily chose two standards for determining whether the steel workers should get a raise:

1. Are the workers' present wages "inequitable" as compared with the earnings of other groups in the country?

2. Would granting a raise be likely to help or to hurt prosperity in the country as a whole?

Self-Chosen Tests

Applying these two self-chosen tests, the Board decided a wage increase was unjustified now because, it said, steel

workers are relatively high-paid compared to other workers in the country and have been well-treated compared to the steel companies themselves, their stockholders and the general public.

Second, the Board said that a wage increase might lead to price increases which would have a bad effect on the economy of the country.

Quite apart from whether or not these conclusions are right or wrong, the whole approach of the Fact Finding Board to the wage question is unsound and most unfair to the workers in the steel industry.

Nowhere in the Board's report is any consideration given to whether the workers need a wage increase. Yet the fact is that the average pay of even those steel workers who have steady year-round jobs is \$700 a year less than the income required to support their families at a fairly decent standard of living as measured by the family budget prepared by the Heller Committee of the University of California. Most steel workers make less than the requirements of the much less adequate Bureau of Labor Statistics "City Worker's Family Budget."

No Thought For Need

Nowhere in the report is it even suggested that workers might be entitled to an improvement in their standard of living. Actually, steel workers' living standards have declined as a result of a 15-percent decrease in their REAL weekly earnings since 1944.

Workers and their needs definitely take a back seat in the thinking of President Truman's fact finders. In essence, the Board asks the workers to forget about a wage increase because if they get one the companies may raise prices. The question of whether the companies could absorb the cost of a wage increase without raising their prices is not considered.

Also ignored is the whole history of price gouging by the steel industry which has always charged what the traffic would bear and since the war has raised prices several times more than the amount necessary to cover wage increases.

In February, 1946, for example, the steel trust got Truman to grant a \$5 a ton price increase as their price for agreeing to a wage increase costing half that much.

The report admits that the steel companies are making enormous profits but justifies this on the ground that they need to make hay while the sun shines because they don't make much during depressions. This is the identical argument used a year or so ago by Irving S. Olds, Chairman of the U.S. Steel Corp. in trying to justify the outrageous price increases charged by U.S. Steel.

Bosses Will Use It

Since the bosses will try to use the Steel Board's report against labor in wage negotiations, it is important for union bargaining committees to keep the following points in mind:

(1) No self-respecting union can accept the standards set forth in this report as a proper basis for deciding wage negotiations. To do so would be to agree that labor must take a back seat and never ask for improvements in its standard of living.

(2) The report does admit that there may be inequities in some industries which would justify the wage increases. This is certainly true of the tobacco industry, where wages are 60 cents an hour less than those paid in the basic steel industry. It is also the case with food processing industries, where the average pay is 36 cents an hour below the steel workers' scale.

(3) The Board's conclusions on insurance and pensions are sound and will be helpful in negotiating benefits of this kind. The report says:

"Social insurance and pensions should be considered a part of normal business costs to take care of temporary and permanent depreciation in the human 'machine,' in much the same way as provision is made for depreciation and insurance of plant and machinery. This obligation should be among the first charges on revenues."

Also to the good is the conclusion that these benefits should be paid for entirely by the companies.

LET'S ALL
PULL
TOGETHER!

You PULL
HARDER...

PRODUCE
MORE!



...AND YOU
PULL OUT



WHILE I
PULL IN...



1949 PROFITS

Local 300 In Picnic

By VIOLA BUSH

Editor, "The 300"

The second annual picnic of Local 300 was held in Lima, Ohio, at Schoonovers Park. A basket lunch was enjoyed at noon while entertainment followed in the afternoon. Bingo, dancing and boating were main attractions for the adults while the children were entertained by ponies and a fish pond.

Out of town guests were FTA Acting President John Tisa, Warren G. Horie and family, regional director and delegates from Akron, Hamilton and Missouri.

During the weeks that followed, the executive board and negotiating committee were busy preparing for a new contract. The local halls from the DWG Corp. in Lima, Findlay, Van Wert, Delphos 'n Ohio, and Detroit, Mich. The negotiating date was Tuesday, Sept. 20.

Brother Armando Valdes, Secretary-Treasurer of FTA, was expected to negotiate the contract on behalf of the international union.

HERMIE



Deportations Slash at Local 7

Acting as the agent of the most haribitten employers in the northwest, the U. S. Immigration Service is running hogwild in its drive against the members of FTA Local 7.

The drive to date has seized four militant leaders and rank and filers of the union, which for 12 years has presented workers in the salmon industry and on the big corporation farms.

The list now includes Local 7 Business Agent Ernesto Mangang, Publicity Director Chris Mensalvas, Election Committee member Casimiro Absolor and Executive Board member Fence Torres.

(Meanwhile, hearings are being held on the frameup drive to deport Luisa Moreno, former vice-president of FTA and long a leader among agricultural and food processing workers throughout the U. S.)

A feature of the drive is the excessive bail demanded by the government before it will let the arrested victims out of jail. Thus Brother Mangang was forced to put up \$5,000. Mensalvas \$8,000, Torres \$1,000 and Absolor, \$500. The intent of this is clear, to hamper the union financially in the midst of contract, election and organization drives.

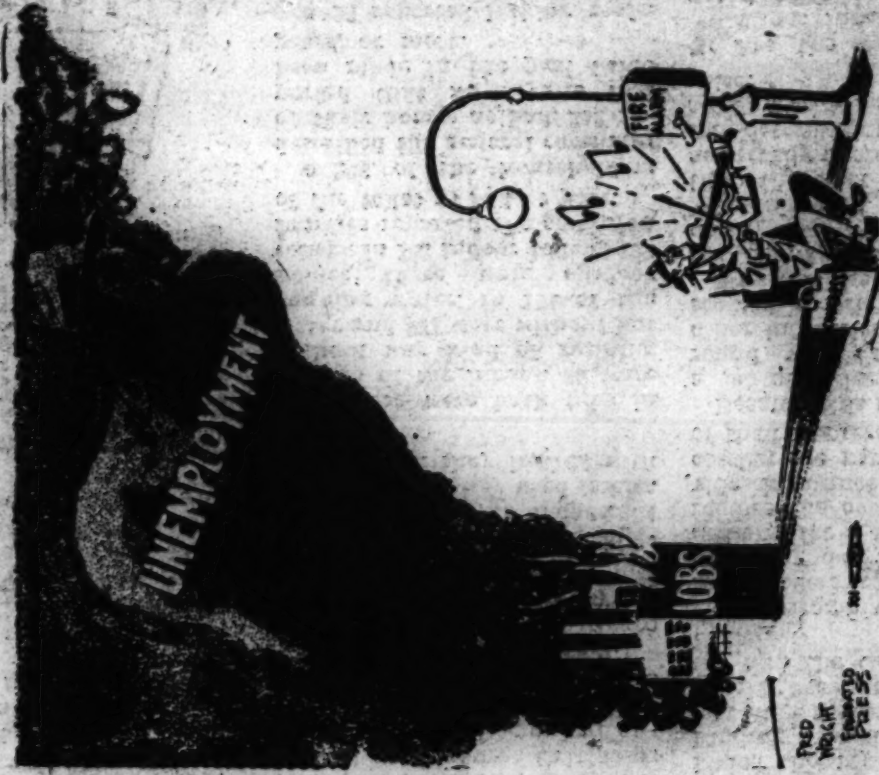
BACKGROUND TO PERSECUTION

The reasons for the deportation drive against Local 7 are clear. Before the salmon workers were organized in FTA, wages averaged around \$25.00 a month. Today the average is \$35.00 a month.

Before the union, hiring was done under a vicious contract system that robbed and victimized the workers. Today, hiring is done by rotation through the union.

This is the way Local 7's Rank and File Defense Committee puts it:

"Where the industry has failed to demoralize the membership and break the union with the Taft-Hartley club, it has now turned to the U. S. Immigration Service for service and assistance. The bosses know that a great majority of the members of Local 7 are



non-citizens. This is the hidden card up the sleeve of the employers."

FOUGHT TO ORGANIZE

The "crimes" of the arrested workers are simple — they fought for years to organize the workers. Ernesto Mangang began to organize 15 years ago. Chris Mensalvas helped lead agricultural workers back in 1934. Casimiro Absolor was one of the founding members of Local 7 and an officer of the union for many years.

Says Local 7's Bulletin: "Filipino cannery workers pioneered one of the most militant unions in the Pacific northwest, Local 7. This union, although the great majority are Filipino nationals, has the most varied national groups in its ranks—Mexicans, Negroes,

Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiian, Puerto Rican, whites.

"Added to them are thousands of agricultural workers—mostly asparagus workers in the San Joaquin valley—who have lately joined its ranks as a result of the 1948 and 1949 strikes."

This is the union, Local 7's Bulletin adds, that the employers are trying to destroy with the aid of the U. S. Immigration Service.

Meanwhile, fighting this union - busting drive takes money, for bail, for defense fees, etc. All FTA locals and members are urged to rush funds to FTA Secretary-Treasurer Armando Valdes, 138 N. 26th St., Philadelphia 3, Pa., who will forward them to the defense committee.

FTA Cannery Pay Tops

With the recent five cent increase won by FTA Local 64, San Diego, Cal., FTA cannery wages hit a new high of \$1.60 an hour. This is the highest cannery wage in the U.S. News.

The increase (FTA News,

August) was won after a prolonged tussle with the employers, the Van Camp Seafood Co. AFL seafood unions in the same area helped the bosses by accepting contracts without in-

FTANews

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Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and A

Vol. VIII—No. 9

SEPTEMBER

—CIO

Five Cents

FTA Crushes AFL Raiders By Smashing 1546-488 Majority

SEE PAGE 3

CURRENT SERIAL RECORD
OCT 6 - 1949



FTA supports community day nurseries. Above is picture of nursery run by Red Feather agency in Indianapolis, Ind. Grownups are (left) FTA International Organizer James Barnett and (right) FTA Local 84 member Caldwell Morris. FTA Local 84 was one of several unions in Indianapolis making a tour of various welfare agencies. Tour was sponsored by Community Services Committee of CIO Council.

Union Rights Main Issue In CIO

SEE PAGE 5